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**Date:** January 18, 2006

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**To:** United States Patent & Trademark Office  
 Group Art Unit 3731

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**Subject:** Status Request for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/689,277 for Eddie F. Ray III

**Comments:**

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DAC:clk:KD\_IM-672097\_1.DOC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: )  
Eddie F. Ray III )  
Serial No.: 10/689,277 )  
Filed: October 20, 2003 )  
METHODS AND INSTRUMENTATION )  
FOR VERTEBRAL INTERBODY )  
FUSION )

Before the Examiner:  
Unassigned

Group Art Unit: 3731

Attorney Docket: MSDI-269/PC545.02

January 18, 2006

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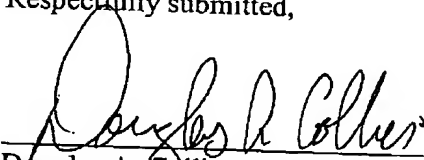
STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The last communication received from the United States Patent and Trademark Office was the Notice of Publication of Application on May 20, 2004. Please provide a status report on the above-referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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METHODS AND INSTRUMENTATION FOR  
VERTEBRAL INTERBODY FUSION  
Serial No. 10/689,277  
Attorney Docket No. MSDI-269/PC545.02  
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